THE VERMONT PHENIX. Published every Friday Evening by

PROUTY & STEDMAN. Office No. 9 Granite Row, Main St., Brattlebore, VI

TEKMS.—Yearly in advance, in cints, \$2.00; single subscribers who receive their papers through the cost Office, \$2.30. There term are monriadly in advance, and when not so paid, \$ffg cents additional will be charged at the end of the year.

RATES DE ADVERTINING.—Twelve lines or one line is space or less time week, \$1.50; each after insertion 25 cents. Adverticements in entiroid or local columns 35 cents a line—no charge less than \$1.00 mins process on a ref. page \$2.00 a line per year.

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Poetry.

THE FIRST PARTING

"Yes! I am off to-morrow morn Next week I sail for Indy And you'll be glad when I am gone-Say, shan't you be, Lucindy?" A Summer flower, herself, the maid

Stood 'mid the sweet syringas, A June pink in her hair's smooth braid, A resetud in her fingers. Placked from the tall bush in the yard,

And parting never seemed so hard As just then, to her lover,

Her tip began to grieve; the red Upon her check grew paler, "It seems a strange chetre, Tom," she said, For you to be a safter." "And when the wild, black clouds I see,

And when the nights are windy
"Bless your soul! you'll pray for me;
I know you will, I weindy!" The resolud from her hand he took, "This flower," he said, "I'll save it, And keep it pressed within a book,

Remembering who gave it. "I never cared, as women do. For garden bods and postes, But somehow - why, I never knew-

I always loved white roses. "They seem fast made for weddin's when

I come again from Imiy, My bride, you'll wear white roses then; Come, won't you'l—eay Lucindy!" A sudden flame upon her check,

Her eyes the quick tears filling.
The answer grave she would not speak,
Lest she might seem too willing. For, "Tom," she asked, "how can it be:

No sign you've over shown me,' And he said, "True, but though I hain't My love, I've wished you knew it, And tried to speak, and feit too faint

At heart to dare to do Br "But when my mind was fixed to go A sailer, out to Indy, I said, 'I'll have a Yes or No,'

O say it's Yes, Lucindy! "Yes, Tom! We yes!" she whispered; "when I learned that you were going; I found you had my heart; till then "Iwas years without my knowing?"

Soft on her shock fell, wet with dow, A rose-baf from above her; A warmer touch her red lip knew-The first kiss of her lover!

Though stilled the song and hushed the laugh, And hot the tears are starting, What joy, that life can give, is half So sweet as love's first parting?

— Attantic Montkly for October

The Leisure Hour.

TOM FOSTER'S WIFE.

BY EDNA DEAN PROCTOR.

I had just returned from a two years' stay in Europe, and was sauntering down Tremont street, in the go**lden** September norning, when I saw my old friend, Tom oster, get out a horse car a few steps in advance of me. I knew him in a moment, though we had hardly met since we were at Exeter Academy together, ten years beore-room-mates and blithe companions to ride horse-back; she couldn't take a until we parted-I to go to Harvard, and he to enter his father's store, the well known ouse of Fester & Co., Pearl street. He was a merry, hearty, practical fellow, clear-skinned and robust as an Englishman, selfreliant and enterprising as New Hampstilre birth and Boston training could make him. I always liked him; but he plunged into business and I into study, and so, without meaning it, we had almost lost sight of

broad shoulders, I can't realize that ter

ears have gone since we were at Exeter

gether. We must talk over old time

what are you plans?"
"I came yesterday, and shall stay in this

ity on account of a business matter, until

"Well, now, this is Saturday, and you

n do nothing after three o'clock. Come

ext Tuesday. Then I am going home."

"You don't look very solemn over it,"

"Solemn? It's the jolliest thing I ever iid in my life. Meet me at the Eastern de-

ot at four o'clock, and I'll tell you all a-

We pasted at the Winter street corner

e to go to his store, and I to the Parker

"How bandsome Boston has grown,"

said I, giancing at the fine buildings and

the Common, beautiful in the September

peaking with the moderate words and per

als city is the sum of all excellence and de

walked along. "I dare say it's to his fa

ther's pretty ward, Clara Maitland, whom

I saw when I spent the day there, cloven years ago. I remember what long earls

she had, and how fond she seemed of him.

ough, she hasn't grown up into

Yes, I dare say it's to Clara. I hope,

se delicate young ladies, good for noth-

ng but to display the latest fashions, and

wattz a little, and torture the plane. Bet-

ter some rosy, sturdy Gretchen than a poor doll like them. It would be a shame for

Tom, with his splendid physique and vig-orous brain, to be tied for life to such a wo-

man!" And then, turning down School street, my thoughts wandered off to a blue-

e ed girl I had loved for many a year-a

triumphs of the croquet ground, but who

e uld send the arrow straight home to the

mark; and climb the hills with me, her

step as light and free as the deer's in the

girl who was not satisfied with the small

et assurance of the Bostonian, to whom

ght, "Remember, four o'clock." And

married!" I said to myself, as I

want to show you my wife."

out it on the way down."

he disappeared in the crowd.

d new. When did you get back and

August came, instead of spending the girl and Mrs. Tom Foster. whole month at home, I thought I would each other. He was an only child, and his have a little change, and so I went down to parents spent their summers at their homethe Cliff House for a fortnight Beach. It's a quiet, pleasant resort, and their winters in Boston. you'll always find from fifty to one hun-dred people during the season. The land-"As I said, I knew him in a moment He had grown tall and stont; but the boy ord is a good fellow and a distant relative vas still in his face, and with a flush of of mine. I thought he looked flurried when early feeling I sprang forward and caught I went in, and after a few minutes be took bim by the arm :-

"Tom! How are you?" me one side and said :-He looked puzzled for a moment, and " 'Tom, you've come at an unfacky time I had a very good cook, that I got from u bursting into a laugh, he selzed my and in his strong grasp, and exclaimed:—
"Why, John Raiston! is this you? Where Boston, at twenty dollars a week : but she is a high-tempered woman. Last evening lid you come from? I'm glad to see you, ny boy. Why, I haven't set eyes on you she quarreled with her assistants, this since we made that trip to Nahant, in you and now she's packing her trunk to leave by the next train. In two or three days I Freshman year. The truth is, fatter was so poorly for a long time then that I had can probably get another one down in be place; but what we're to do meanwhile I everything to see to, and felt as if the world was on my shoulders. I did hear, though, "But, Norton," said I, "isn't there some about your college honors and your going too ermany; and I've often thought of you dely and wished to see you. Why, Jack, a spite of my weight, and your heard and

fancy the girls. Perhaps I was unfortu-

connets any day in the Washington street

windows; and my ideal of woman was one

to Greenland for a long summer visit. She

in mind and body. She looked very gay

always late at breakfast; she didn't dare

walk without stopping to rest on every stone; and once when I asked her if she

done with such a baby?

whose dress is her least attraction,

"I doubt it,' he replied. 'I've half a dezen girls from the vicinity doing up-stairs work-one of them from your town, the best waiter in the dining room. But 1 suppose all of them would either be afraid of the responsibility or think it beneath them to turn cook; though they would have plenty of help, and earn twenty dol-

rs where they now get three,'
"Who's here from Greenland?" I asked, for I knew something of nearly every one in the place.

nd spend Sunday with me in the country. "'Mary Lyford," "Your wife! Are you married, Tom?" "'Mary Lyford? A black-eyed, light 'Murried nearly a year," said be with ; footed girl, about twenty years old, with two brothers in Colorado, and her father a

farmer over toward Stratham?" 'Yes, the very same.' "'Why, she's the prettiest girl in Greet land-at least, I thought so two years ago, when I danced with her at the Thanksgiving party in the village; and I heard last

Fair for the best loaf of bread. But why "'Ob, you know farmers baven't much ready money; and I suppose she wanted o the beack like the rest of us. You say she took the premiem for her bread? I be-lieve I'll go into the dining room and propose to give the cook's place to any one of he girls who would like it and feels competent to take it. I must do something; and, looking at his watch be went out

"Ton minutes later be came back, elap-ping bis hands, and exclaimed;— " Mary Lyford says she'll fry it." " 'Hurrah for Greenland !' cried L 'Isn't that lucky? By Jove! I hope she'll sue

coed, and I believe she will." "'You mustn't expect much to-day," said Norton. "Things are all topsy-turvy in the kitchen, and it'll take some time to

get them straightened out." Must then a new arrival claimed his attention, and with a serener face he turned

"Dinner was poor that day; supper wa tion, I began to be afraid that Greenland was going down. But the next morning what a breakfast we had-juley steaks, hot potatoes, delicious rolls and corn-bread, City, Mich., and, the string breaking, it regriddle-cakes that melted in your mouth, and coffee that had lost none of its aroma in the making. Thenceforth every meal and aweet, twenty-two years old.

glade below; and hold a steady our in our was a triumph. The guests praised the taboat on the river; and swim ashore, if bie, and hastened to their seats at the first need should be; and then, when a walk or sound of the bell. Norton was radiant TIMEN. row was over, who could sit down to a unit statement of cold meat and bread and butter if I had been landlord or cook myself. Sev-

with an appetite as keen as a young Indi-an's after a day's lunt; yes, and who knew how to be efficient in the kitchen and the rarest ornament of the parior. How impa-of her till the night before I was to jeave, tient I was to see her, the bewitching maid- I was dancing in the parter, and had just en whom a prince might have been proud ted a young lady of the Mattlida Lane stamp to marry. And again I said to myself, as to her mamma, when I saw Mary standing I went up the Parker House steps: "I do hope Tom hasn't made a fool of himself!" I went out, and, shaking her cordially by the hand, told her how interested I had been in her success, and how proud I was some of which we reproduce.

to find a Greenland girl so accomplished.

The earliest letter of which we have any Four o'clock found me si the station; and a moment later in walked Tom, carrying a to find a Greenland girl so accomplished.

crossed the bridge and caught the breeze ed, she looked every inch a lady, cool from the sea. "But I can guess before-"Do me the favor, Miss Lyford, said I,

ra has been dead four years," said he. "She belp, inherited consumption from her mother." Minneson and to Fiorida; but it was of no invite you to dance, and so does Mr. Nor-She didn't live to see her eighteenth | ton,"

"Poor Clara! She loved you dearly, show the company that you are at home in perishable medium that the Romans had together all the perfections of the art of Then I suppose you chose some Boston girl the parlor as well as the kitchen." So, smil-

went on; "You know I have the missor- have seen them when we took our places and as if time to be an only child. After I was on the floor! Some laughed, some from a comple twenty-one, father and mother began to talk about my marrying. I have plenty or I paid not the slightest attention to it all. Sometim marrying. To tell the truth, Jack, I didn't | if she had been the belle of Boston,

"Good night, Miss Lyford, I said, when that nate in my acquaintances; but they seem- | we reached the nall. 'I am going in the ed to me all curls and flounces and furbe- morning; but I shall see you again when lows, and I would as soon have thought of you get back to Greenland." marrying a fashion-plate as one of these claborate creatures. I don't object to style: "Good night, Mr. Foster,", she replied, claborate creatures. I don't object to style: "I thank you for your kindness." Then she I like it. But you can see fine gowns and added, laughing: 'Have you any orders for

""Why, yes. I should like to remember "Do you recollect father's former part- yesterday." ner, Adam Lane? He's a clever old gentle-man and a millionaire, and father has the "'You shall have them, sir,' she said, as

brenkfast ?"

much confined to the store; and, when | and that all women were like my blue-eyed

reatest liking and respect for him. He have them I did. "Three weeks later Mary came back to has two daughters-one married years ago; and the other, much younger, father fixed Greenland, with more than a bundred dolupon as a desirable wife for me. I rather lars in her purse and a lame that was worth thousands. I went to see her at her father's house. I found her every way exthink the two families had talked it over together; at any rate, Miss Matilda came cellent and lovely; and the end was that at

is an amiable girl; but so petted and spoil-Christmas we were married." "Glorious!" I exclaimed. "Give me ed that she's good for nothing-undeveloped your hand, Tom! I was afraid you had been taken in by some Matilda Lane." In the evenings, attired in Jordan, Marsh & Co. states importations. But she was "Do you think I'm a foot?" said be. Then I told him of my own choice, and

at the Greenland station. We soon arrived at his hospitable home had read the account of the battle of Sedan, she looked up, in her childish way, and His wife was all he had pictured her; a refined, intelligent, handsome woman; who der that the writing might be revealed, said: 'No, Mr. Foster. Newspapers are so would develop and grow in attractiveness tiresome.' Blessame! what should I have every year of her life. After a merry eve-"A year ago this summer I was very and dreamed that the millenium had come.

HOW THE SPIDER SPLYS HIS

Most people have too great an anticathy a spiders to spend even a few minutes in watching them. But we must confess that we rather cultivate their acquaintance, as they catch and devour our enemies, the flies. The spinning apparatus of a spider is very curious. On the under part of the body are several small prominences covered with many hundreds of small holes through which exhudes a gummy sub stance which hardens on exposure to the air. Thus each little hole produces a thread of inconceivable fineness, and when these many threads are joined together, they arm what we see as a single thread. When a spider wishes to form a web; if he belones o the race of geometrical spiders which build a wheel shaped web, he selects some convenient place, and proceeds to lay the foundation by attaching the spokes of this wheel to proper objects; he then commen ces at the centre formed by the crossing of these lines, and travels round and round spinning his web, employing his feelers for guides as to distance. He always uses the outer web as a pathway, and every time be crosses one of the spokes he attach es his line to it. When he has finished, he takes fils position at the centre, head down wards,, and waits for the unlucky insecwhich he is sure will soon happen along. As soon as he perceives that some awkward fly has run against his delicate frame ork, he bonnees out on him, and quickly ties him fast, hand and foot, so that he may levour him at leisure. But it is not alone for laying traps, and

tying fast his unlucky victims, that the spider uses his web. If he wants to cros from one tree to another, or from one side of a stream to the opposite, he uses the web for a bridge. This he constructs by fail that she got the prize at the Manchester taking a favorable position and then spinning a web, which he lets float in the wind. As soon as it strikes some object to which it adheres, he pulles it to see that it is se cure, and then crosses on this single line This is an achievement in engineering that far surpasses the auspension bridges built by human skill. Here is a bridge, oftennes from 50 to 100 feet long, spun by so insignificant an insect that we may have me trouble to find him, yet strong enough to bear his weight safely. When a spider wishes to descend from an elevation, he attaches the end of his web to some object, and then boldly launches off, spinning as he goes. When he gets down, he ents the line and leaves it, unless he wishes to return immediately, in which case he colls It up and takes it along as he ascends,-Journal of Chemistry.

-Tracts designed to meet the special requirements of people who are putting up oves would have a good run just now. -One inch square is the largest admissible center for a lace handkerchief. It is title better. And, in spite of Norton's can- needless to say that great accuracy of aim

s indispensable -In 1850, Mrs. Franklin Bennett lowermained there until the well was cleaned

TER CARRYING IN OLDEN

In these days of three-cent lightning ostage, when for a trifle one can unbosom mself to a friend in a few bours' time, thousands of miles away, we are not apt to to think of the difficulties and vicissitudes attending epistolary postage only a few years ago. Many of us can remember when it cost more to dispatch a letter than it now The Queen was surprised to find her letter in America and Ireland.

The Queen was surprised to find her letter in America and Ireland. years ago. Many of us can remember when it cost more to dispatch a letter than it now does to send a telegram. A writer in the British Quarterly Review has collected a mass of enteriaining facts on the subject, as the writer could send her nothing be-

basket filled with Jersey peaches. "They don't grow in Greenland," said be, tucking a modest way, that she was very gial if we the paper down over the fruit. Come this were all suited; and then Norton came up the battle. There are several classical stormediate supply of money was sent to him. I followed him, and we had just and expressed his entire satisfaction with ourselves comfortably in the car what she had done. As she stood there is who carried letters in which their own exeway. I followed him, and we may just and expressed an expressed him, and we may just and expressed him, and we may just an expressed him, and expressed hi cool from the sea. "But I can guess before-hand the girl you married. It was Clara ""Do me the favor, Miss Lyford, said I, later Jewish history we learn from the Bi-that manuals of epistolary composition, "o dance the next cotillion with me?" both in Ereach and English, of the early ""Ah! Mr. Foster, the replied, looking Ahab's name, and sealed them with his part of the fifteenth century, exist in man-A shadow passed over Tom's face. "Cla- srehly at Norton, that isn't expected of the seal, and sent them to the elders and no-We did everything for her—took her to are the queen of the establishment, and I capable. Seneca and the younger Pliny also were among the musters in the art. " Certainly I do,' he answered. 'Go and When we consider the inconvenient and of your acquaintance?"

"Jack, you couldn't tell who Mrs. Tom

"Soler was if should try from now till tomorrow morning. I shall have to enlight en you." And moving his basket to one side and settling himself in his seat, he letters were usually written by at slave (the Hbrarius,) the sec only guarantee of genuinenes lvery or pareliment tablets and an elevated border was procousins, you know, and we always had young ladles going in and out of the house; through the dance with such grace and bably added, is order to prevent rubbing. but while Clars lived, she was company for me, and after she died I was full of regarded her with admiration. I didn't Romans, as most families posbusiness, and didn't trouble myself about | wait for comments, but escorted her out as | nessed tabeltarii, or special slaves, whose duty it was to convey letters to their des-

The value of communication between persons in distant places was appreciated in ory early times; and we find Job exclaim-Now my days are swifter than a post," In the days of Hezekiah "the posts went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Ju-dah;" and Ahasueras sent letters into you by a plate of such mustins as we had every province of his empire by "the posts that rode upon mules and camels," and were "hastened and pressed on by the she disappeared in the doorway. And king's commandments," to inform his sub-baye them I did. very man should bear rule in his own

Various modes of communication other than writing have at different time been in use, such as numerically marked or notebed pieces of wood, and the many-colored cords regularly knotted, which were called quipus by the Peruvians. Herodetus tells us of a practice resorted to, in order to convey igence with safety. The head atessenger was shaved, and corwritings were impressed upon his I was still talking when the train stopped skull. After his hair had grown sufficient-

ly long for the purposes of concealment, is was sent on his mission, and on arriving at his destination was again shaved, in or When the Spaniards visited America, they found the postal communication in Mexiin their pleasant parlor, I went to bed, co and Peru to be carried out on a most perfect system; and we learn that the courlers of the Aztecs were a differently colored dress, according as they brought good or of the country private gold coins have been know of the condition of the line for miles bad tidlugs.

The establishment of a postal system in Richard III., who commanded the expedi on against the Scots, in his brother Edward's reign. During this time, as it was necessary for the king and his government to know how the war was carried on, stages of about twenty miles each were establishe upon the North road. They were afterward continued.

receiver expected to get his money's worth in a long letter; but various tricks were iten resorted to in order to save this cost, ind blank let ers, with a cipher on the out side, were sometimes sent, and refused by the persons to whom they were directed, ocarse they had learned from the exter for all they wanted to know, Another rick discovers an ingenious mode of getting letters free. A shrewd countryman, learning that there was a letter for him a the postoffice, called for it, but confessed that he could not read, and requested the postmaster to open it and let him know the contents. When he had obtained all the call and take it."

It was the practice with the Romans to place the names of both the writer and his pelled to resort to some other medium correspondent at the commencement of the letter, as "Paul, an sposile of Jesus Christ, unto Timothy, my own son in the faith;" and the ending usually consisted of the of the Romans might well be imitated by us, for we often find an old letter rendered stead of the day of the month and year. Among ourselves etiquette once placed her siern hands upon correspondence, and laid down rules of how a letter was to be written. Among persons pretending to any fashion it was considered proper to use fine gilt paper, scaled with a coat-of-arms.

Letter writing has a special charm for exhibit upon paper the feelings of and e-motions about which they could not speak. Some men seem able to think only when a pen is in their hands; though others, in pence." These coins were soon in circulathe same situation, seem to lose half their ideas. Johnson said of the industrious Dr. Birch, "Tom Birch is as brisk as a bee in conversation, but no sooner does he take a these were so easily tampered with by pen in his hand than it becomes a torpedo washing and clipping. It was ordered that, pen in his hand than it becomes a torpedo to him, and benumbs all his faculties." Dr. French Lawrence was an instance of the exact reverse, for Fox made him put | side, with this inscription (Massachusetts on paper what he wanted to relate, saying, and a tree in the centre on one side, and "I love to read your writing, but I hate to | New England and the date of the year on

tter intended for his mistress to an obdurate father, and his letter renouncing her to the lady. When he found out the dreaded a pail of butter into her well at Union ful mistake he had committed, life became Carolinas. insupportable to him, and he threw himself upon his sword. Swift sent a love-letout a few days ago, when it came out fresh | ter to a hishop and the letter intended for

fortunate in the success of his expedient of purposely misdirecting his letters. When he was employed on a diplomatic mission to Flanders, he was much pressed for money, and in a pocket to the Secretary of State of "pinchbeck," giving to one William be sent two letters, one for Queen Eliza-both and the other for his wife, which he them. We are told that "he had the conmisdirected, so that the letter for his wife science to make thirteen shillings out of a was addressed to her most excellent Majesty, pound of brass." This was called "Wood's

cause he was very short of money, and could not think of trespassing on the bounty of her Majesty any further. Daley

scaled tablets that demanded his death. In want. Sir Henry Ellis has pointed out and sent them to the elders and no-Greero was one of the earliest to lished in 1529, is perhaps the earliest work can space, to describe the various coins on the subject in print. The voluminous 1618 a guide, with the following title:-"Conceiled letters; or, a most excellent Bundle of New Wit, wherein is kuit up

THE PARIETY OF COLVICE.

Though the whole world may be said thus far to have been Gold-worshippers, there are very few, who have not attempted the collect great variety of form and appearance which these liftle objects of men's idolatry have taken. In shape, coins have generally been round and thin, both for convenience of making and handling. The exceptions o this were more frequent in ancient than In modern times; yet there are now one or two square coins struck, both in Europe and in Asia. There are parallelograms in Japan, and eight-sided pieces in Assam. We have, also, a few octagonal gold-pieces of American coinage. In striking the cir-cular coin it is necessary that it should be held in a ring or collar, in order to preserve its form. For want of some such precaution as this, as also, perhaps, because they were not accurately cut, the more ancient colus are rurely true circles, though this was evidently the form intended.

Of course no attempt could be made within our limits to speak of the different devices on the coins of other nations. Even in our own, first and last, there has been a much greater variety than most persons ould suppose. It is not an uncommon impression that our laws probabit the coining of money by private individuals; yet bey do not, provided the coin is not made in resemblance or similitude" of the gold and silver coins issued from the Mint. The estitution prohibits the States from coining money, and vests the power in Congress; but under this provision no law has ver forbidden the citizen to do it, except imitation of the national coins. So far as the copper coin is concerned, however, there is what is equivalent to this prohibition in the law, which forbids the offering, r even the receiving of any other coin than the cent and half-cent. In some paris struck and circulated. These instances have occurred especially in the gold regons of North Carolina and Georgia, Some fifteen or more private mints, also, are said to have sent forth their coinages in Califor-

Our National Mint has four branches; ne at Charlotte, in North Carolina; one st Dahlonega, Georgia : one at New Orleans, and one in San Francisco. The coins at these several branches exactly resemble those of the principal Mint at Philadelphia, except they have upon them the letters "C.," "D.," "O.," and "S." respectively, o distinguish them, while the coins of the

Philadelphia mint have no initial letter. Before the formation of the Federal Constitution, each Colony claimed the right to soin money, and many of them had their saues. The earliest Colonial coin is said to have been made for the Virginia Comobverse, or principal side, the accounts of ry of the abundance of "horges" found by the colonists on their landing. On the reverse side was a ship under full sall, firing information he required, he politely thanked a gun. Probably not a very large number the official for his kindness, and drily ob-served, "When I have some change I will rate, neither they nor the currency obtained from other sources sufficed for the wants of the colonists, and they were comexchange, and they chose-Tobacco

More than thirty mars later (a. Assembly of Virginia prefaced the which provided for a new copper cola with the deciaration that they had "matuscrupulously added, and sometimes the ly weighed and considered how advantagvery hours were mentioned. This method | cous a quoine current would be to their Colony, and the great wants and miseries which do daily happen unto it by the sol of little value by the omission of a date. A dependency upon tobacco," The law pass-ord habit that some writers indulge in is to use the name of the day of the week, in- the colonists were compelled to use tobac eo as money, and to submit to the "misor ics" resulting from it.

The first coins actually struck in the

country were made in Massachusetts, in accordance with a law passed in 1652, establishing a "Mint bowse" in Boston, The law provided that the coinage should be "twelvepence, sixpence, and threepence pieces, which shall be for forme flatt, and stamped on the one side with N. E., and on the other side with XII.d., VI'd., and III.d., according to the value of each tion, but before the expiration of the year a new die was ordered, because, on account of the extreme simplicity of the design, -"Henceforth both shillings and smalle pieces shall have a double ear you talk." These pieces are now known as the "Pine-tree" crimage. All inadvertent misdirecting of them must have have the date either of 1652 or 1892. They ed, and the preacher outdid himself, but been a constant source of trouble and annoy-ance. In James L's reign a lover sent a the mint was in existence for thirty-four years. Subsequently this mint was given up, and coins were struck in England for

ried into operation. Lord Baltimore, how- tremble.

The celebrated civilian, Dr. Daley, was ever, had coins struck at home and sen

lished. But Vermont did establish one in ernment. Connecticut also, in the same year established a mint at New Haven, ly i good farmers say that if not sown ear-where afterward three hundred tons of the first copper coins of the Federal Government were made. New Jersey established and oats are very generally better when two mints in 1797; one at Elizabeth and another near Morristown, Massachusetts, in the same year, re-established two; one on Boston Neck and one in Dedham. These are some of the mints of the early days,

which they issued. The plan of the National coinage was presented by Jefferson, in 1786, and, with a few changes, was the same as is still coninned. The designs upon the coins, as is well known, have been frequently altered, The first cents (of which the large quantity above mentioned was made in New Haven) had on one side a chain of thirteen links, with the words "United States" around it, and "We are One" in the centre. On the other side was a sun-dial, with the sun above it, and "Mind Your Business," below. This was perhaps the most unique design and inscription of any in the whole series of coins, which comprised, besides the two copper coins, five silver and three gold. One silver and four gold coins have since been added. The weight of the cop-per cent has been four times reduced; at first it weighed two hundred and sixty-fou grains, or a little over half an ounce. The gold coins have been reduced in weight once, and the proportion of alloy also changed. An important reduction, it will also be remembered, was made, in 1823, in the silver coinage. - Mercantile Journal.

ADJPTATION OF ELECTRICITY TO GENERAL USE.

The telegraph and electricity are yearly tering more and more intimately into the daily service and convenience of the people. It sounds the alarm and brings speedy succor when fire threatens devastation and ruin. It furnishes to every merchant, broker, and business man who desires it, in the more important business centers, a constant record in his own office or counting-room of the condition and transactions of our exchange, and the quotations of leading articles of traffic and giving them apples, recommended by an commerce. It calls messengers and assisting them apples, recommended by an old farmer. Another case of a two hundred tants, when needed, to any locality, at all hours of the day and night. It furnishes communication between the offices, manu-actories, and piaces of merchants, manbfacturers, shippers, others. The editors of our great newspapers can sit in their 11braries at home and direct, by means of telegraph, easily operated by themselves or members of their families, the manage ment of their papers. The liability to danger and destruction on railreads is greatly lessened, and disasters averted, through the use of electrical signals. The engineer as his locomotive dashes along the iron rail at a speed which outstrips the wind, can, at a glance at the signal by the road side, ahead, and whether other trains are likely to be encountered, or misplaced switches and onen drawbridges invite him to death and destruction. Our bells are rung by electricity, our clocks are regulated by the electrical current, the fidelity of watchmen s assured or their lack of vigitance recorded with unfailing accuracy by the electrical tell-tale. The concealed wire and electric circuit beiray the operations of the burglar and thief, and our gas, is lighted by elec-

tricity. The uses to which the electric current and the telegraph have been and shall ye be adapted are so numerous even now as to surpass our comprehension. It is the nightiest agency of modern times, the ue wizard's wand, which manipulates and controls the affairs of mankind,

In the science and administration of this nighty agency, many thousands of people are constantly engaged, and their number s yearly and almost daily augmente d. They constitute a large community, and apon their intelligence, capacity, and fidelity the most momentous and important incrests constantly depend. It is impossible even now to predict what advances and discoveries may yet

made in electrical science and teleg Astonishing as these have already here is undoubtedly much yet to be ed, and new adaptions will continue to be

NATHANIEL CHIPMAN,-The prope a erect a monument at Tinmouth, to the emory of Nathaniel Chipman, at the exsense of the State, recalls attention to the ife and services of one of the most distinguished statesmen of the Green Mountain State. His career-which closed in 1843, when he died at the age of 91-covered the entire period of our national history from the opening of the revolutionary war. He was educated at Yale College, and after erving for a year in the war in 1778, he studied law. Removing to Vermont, he ook the lead in the negotiations which refederal Union. Afterward he became Chief Justice, and in 1797 he was elected to the United States Senate. In the later years of his life be served several terms in the State Legislature, and wrote and lectured on political and legal subjects. His life was endbeen erected at his grave. The patriotic and grateful sentiments of the citizens will not longer permit his last resting; place to emain unmarked by a proper memorial, and a bill has already passed the House to appropriate one thousand dollars to pro cure a suitable tablet, -- Montpelier Journal.

-A revival preacher lately worked hard at Ironton, Ohio, to get up an interest, preaching day and night; but unsuccessfully. The last night the house was crowdnot a soul rose for prayers, and he sat down completely discouraged. Before the benediction was pronounced, however, a loug-faced man got up, and said that the the New England colonies as well as the | Elder had been working hard and labored faithfully with them, and as a token of In 1662 an act was passed in Maryland | their appreciation he moved the congrega-"for the setting up of a mint within the province," though the law was never car- with a heartiness which made the pews lowing day the men voice—for license, 457. On the following."

Farm and Fireside. FALL PLOWING

In sections where spring crops are grown o any considerable extent, fall ploughing is an important and yery necessary part of farm work. All spring sown crops are much better for early sowing, and there are few seasons when they would not be In 1776, New Hampshire passed laws for This in most cases may be done if the land mint, which, however, was never estabfit and sow the same land in the spring, 1755, at Rupert, at which, not only coins of her own were made, but subsequently a nine cases out of ten, the first sown will nine cases out of ten, the first sown will few of the earlier coins of the Foderal Gov- give much better crops than that last put in. Barley especially should be sown earbe put in some other crop. Spring wheat

> sown early. And then, when crops can be sown early, it gives work a good start, which may be kept all through the season. If the sowing is done early, there is more time to prepare land and plant early also. Then with early sown and planted crops, harvest comes earlier and there is more time to get all the work done in good season. This also gives time to plough and fit land for the next

> веазоп'я сгора. Fall ploughing is more especially adapt ed to all of the sandy and gravelly soils and loams, as all such lands are less liable to be effected by a good deal of open, wet wenther. Retaining, in great measure, the condition in which they are left by the plough, they are easily brought to a fine tilth in the spring and soon made ready for the seed. In many cases, particularly where the snow has remained on the land through the winter, or the winter and spring have been dry, the seed is sown on the furrows and well harrowed in. But here should always be a fine mellow seed bed, and land should only be sown on the furrow where this can be secured. Besides, t is very generally best to sow on fresh or recently worked soil, and the harrow and wheel cultivator or gang plough should be used in the spring to bring fall-ploughed land into good condition for the seed .-Country Gent.

GIVE YOUR CATTLE APPLES.-Many who keep cattle and horses are not aware that the reason cattle and horses this time of the year are so anxious to get to apples is, because they need them as medicine. The old theory is that apples hurt them. This is not correct, any more than that water will kill a sick patient in fever when he wants it and pleads for it. In such a case nature calls for it and should have it. Doctors have learned this fact, and ordered it. Just so about giving cattle apples when they plead for them. I saw last week three men who had cured two gargety cows by dollar horse, turned out to die or live, as he had been doctored and given over. This horse got to an apple tree and cat what he wanted, and began to gain. He was fed a peck a day as long as he would eat them and he got well in a week. Another was cured of worms with two meals of sour apples, when all other medicines failed. I saw three cows tied up in a barn mourning for something. I asked what they wanted. They said apples. As there was a pail in sight, I gave the three cows half a bushel, and they were soon peaceable, and went to cating hay. An old farmer told me be had lately learned that his cattle would do much better to give them what apples they would cat in the fall, which is but a few daily, after they get one meal of them. Why they have hurt mileh cows is, because they them. If they get a chance they eat too many. Feed them out with discretion, and you will see the old superstitious notion of hurting them vanished, while your cattle would thank you if they could speak. Try it. If you have none, your neighbors have plenty. Buy them. You can afford it as well as anything else. I write this for the sake of the cattle and hope it will be a bless-

ing to them,-Hiram Munger. KILLING ANSMALS WITH CHLOROFORM. -Many persons would be glad to know how to kill an animal without suffering, and we venture to give the benefit of our exp. cience. We are constantly called upon to destroy horses, dogs and cats, and have little difficulty in doing it. For horses we use a large sponge, say six inches in diameter, the "ghly saturated with chlo-rottim, whi - dropped into a bag large creagh to be drawn over the horse's nose. ight," for, it so, suffication is likely to

sue. In two or three minutes the horse unconscious, and in eight or ten min-ics dead, without suffering. For dogs and cats a similar process, using a small sponge and bag, or these animals, with saturated sponge, may be put in a box admitting some air, when they soon "go to sleep." Seventy-five cents worth of chloreform will kill a horse, and twenty-five a do : or cat. If one saturation of the sponge does not complete the work, repeat it. Our Dumb Animals.

WIRE SURFACE FOR PLASTERING,-A most ingenious device has recently been patented for the use of wire in forming a plastering surface. The plan consists not in the use of any wire net-work expressly manufactured for the purpose as might be supposed, but simply the fastening of or dinary wire upon the posts, in place of lath. rose to a prominent position at the bar, and | The wire is passed from a reel and drawn tightly in parallel horizontal lines about mited in the admission of Vermont to the half an inch apart. It is attached to the atandards by means of two narrow strips of iron, one of which is nailed to the post, and another fastened in the same manner upon the first, the wires being held at equal distances apart between the iron strips. It would naturally be supposed that plastering applied upon this would pass largely through, and fall off, but this does not prove to be the case, and the result of the device is a solid wall of plaster, through the middle of which the wires extend, holding it firmly. The cost of this plan is comparatively small, the work is rendered easy, and the result is what the inventor claimed for it-a wall surface which is absolutely fire proof. The device is already being adopted with much

> TEMPERANCE AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE, -A preliminary skirmish in the woman sufrage contest occurred recently at Danbury, Conn. A town meeting was to be held to decide whether or not to liceuse the sale of intoxicating liquors. On the preceding day the ladies of the town voted on the question in regular form with the following re-